

ADULT LONGEVITY IN *DIAPERIS MACULATA* (TENEBRIONIDAE)

By EDWIN W. KING AND LESLIE H. McMULLEN

Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin

In routine biological and distributional studies of Wisconsin insects known to be associated with *Chalara quercina* Henry, the fungus which causes oak wilt, certain details of the biology and habits of fungus-feeding beetles are emerging and may be of interest to coleopterists. The present note is concerned with the longevity, in captivity, of the adult of the not uncommon tenebrionid *Diaperis maculata* Olivier.

Two male adults were collected by L. H. McMullen under loose bark of a large dead oak near Plover, Wisconsin, on August 2, 1951. They were found to feed readily on *Chalara* and for the next six weeks were subjected to various experiments to determine their possible role as vectors of the oak wilt disease. They were shown to prefer *Chalara* to *Penicillium* sp. but were eventually abandoned as unpromising leads in the oak wilt problem. However, they were maintained on successive petri dish cultures of *Chalara* in an incubator at 80° F. until late November, when they ceased feeding. They were then placed under refrigeration until early April. With the coming of spring they resumed feeding, and continued to feed through the summer of 1952, again under incubator conditions. Both were found dead on September 18, 1952, after having been last seen alive four days previously. They had lived as adults in captivity on a diet of the fungus *Chalara* for thirteen and one-half months. The condition of their last culture indicated that starvation was not the cause of death.

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